

A NEW SPECIES OF *PSATHYROTOPSIS* (ASTERACEAE, HELENIEAE)
FROM COAHUILA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

A new species, *Psathyrotopsis hintoniorum* B.L. Turner, is described from near Parras, southern Coahuila, México. It is closely related to *P. purpusii* Brandege, also from southern Coahuila. The former is readily distinguished by its larger nearly entire leaves and larger heads on longer glandular-pubescent peduncles.

KEY WORDS: Asteraceae, Helenieae, *Psathyrotes*, *Psathyrotopsis*, México

Routine identification of Mexican Asteraceae has revealed the following novelty, which is placed in the genus *Psathyrotopsis* Rydberg. Strother & Pilz (1975) included *Psathyrotopsis* within the older genus *Psathyrotes* A. Gray. Robinson (1981), however, not only recognized both genera, but he also positioned them in different subtribes (Gaillardinae and Chaenactidinae, respectively). Except for subtribal positions, I agree with Robinson's assessment. Not only does *Psathyrotes* produce achenes with noncarbonized achene walls (compared to carbonized in *Psathyrotopsis*), but the several species described to date have truncate style branches (compared to linear-lanceolate in *Psathyrotopsis*). With description of the present, *Psathyrotopsis* has three species, all confined to northcentral México and closely adjacent areas.

Psathyrotopsis hintoniorum B.L. Turner, *sp. nov.*, Figure 1. TYPE: MEXICO. Coahuila: Mpio. Parras, S of Parras, common on shale outcrops, 1405 m, 1 Mar 1993, *Hinton et al.* 22692 (HOLOTYPE: TEX!).



Figure 1. Photograph of holotype of *Psathyrotopsis hintoniorum*.

Psathyrotopsis purpusii Brandegee similis sed caulibus foliatis (vs. foliis fasciculatis ad basim caulis), laminis foliorum late ovatis ac integris vel fere integris (vs. subtiliter crenulatis), capitulis in pedunculis longioribus (20-30 mm longis vs. 8-20 mm), et bracteis involucri manifeste glandulosi-pubescentibus (vs. eglandulosis) differt.

Suffruticose perennial white-tomentose herbs 10-20 cm high. Stems 2-5 cm thick, densely white-tomentose. Leaves opposite, densely white-tomentose, 3-6 cm long, 1.5-2.7 cm wide; petioles mostly 1-2 cm long; blades ovate, 3-nervate, the margins entire to indistinctly undulate. Heads eradiate, 1-3 on short terminal peduncles, the ultimate peduncles glandular-pubescent, 2-3 cm long. Receptacles epaleate, involucre campanulate, 10-12 mm high, ca. 14 mm wide (pressed), the bracts ca. 23, subequal, 2-3 seriate, both densely white-tomentulose and glandular-pubescent. Florets 20-30 per head (estimated), the corollas yellow, 7-8 mm long, cylindric, glandular-pubescent, the tube ca. 1 mm long, the lobes 5, ca. 1.2 mm long. Achenes linear-oblongate, 3.0-3.5 mm long, densely pubescent with straight, upwardly-appressed hairs 0.5-1.0 mm long; pappus of numerous bristles 2-5 mm long, these arranged in 2-4 series.

Psathyrotopsis hintoniorum is clearly closely related to *P. purpusii* but is markedly different by the several characters noted in the Latin diagnosis. According to Strother & Pilz (1975) the latter species is known only from the type locality (ca. 100 km W of Saltillo, Coahuila, near Marte, a railroad station, where it reportedly occurs at ca. 1200 m in light sandy soils at the foot of talus). According to the most recent Carta de México (3rd impression, 1988; ISBN 968-892-214-5), Estación Marte is located at ca. 25°42' N, 101°46' W, along the lowermost southwestern flanks of Sierra La Paila; *Psathyrotopsis hintoniorum* occurs in the Sierra Parras, which is about 50 km WSW of the Sierra La Paila.

The species is named for the Hinton family present and past, who have contributed so much to our knowledge of the Mexican flora (cf. Turner 1993).

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